

Scrutiny Board (City Development) 2009/2010 - A660 Statement - Recommendation Monitoring

No	Recommendation	Where we are up to	Stage	Cont
1	That the Chief Highways Officer review the current consultation process to ensure that at the very least consultees and particularly Elected Members are encouraged to respond to requests and how a nil response to invitations to comment may be interpreted as no objections received or support for a particular scheme or project.	A draft revised template for member consultations and form of words for wider consultations has been prepared. This seeks to ensure members and other consultees are encouraged to respond and emphasises that if a response is not received it cannot be considered as an objection by implication. It is expected that this approach will be fully implemented from September. In the meantime all senior managers in the service are fully aware of the issues raised by the Scrutiny investigation.	2	No
2	That the Chief Highways Officer review the process by which highways schemes are reported to Area Committees and particularly those that affect more than one ward in order to ensure proper consultation and feedback from all Members of Area Committees on proposed highways schemes.	<p>It is important that the consultation process is proportionate to the scheme and that it is meaningful for Members and officers alike. In this regard schemes that are likely to be of wider interest and impact than purely the local Ward need to be identified. Previously, at the outset of each financial year Area Managers are notified of the anticipated programme for highway maintenance works and this will be expanded later this year to include notification of all highways schemes. Ward members have received a full listing of all schemes within their wards.</p> <p>Where a scheme is adjudged to have a more than local significance, the local Member consultation described is being supplemented by the inclusion of the Area Committee Chair in the consultation process. The significance of a scheme is a subjective matter but would generally include most schemes identified as Key Decisions and some Major Decisions. This would take account of the scale, extent and transport impact of proposals, together with neighbourhood impacts for which advice from area management officers would be sought.</p>	2	No

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| 3 | That the Chief Highways Officer review the traffic modelling for the proposals at Clarendon Road to ascertain what alternative solutions, if any, are available including options for using the existing road space to make bus lane provision where it is needed. | As reported previously revised scheme proposals have been prepared for this junction and are being progressed for implementation. The proposals provide the required new crossing of Clarendon Road and revisions to the existing crossing of Woodhouse Lane. Long standing issue of unauthorised parking obstructing the adjacent bus lay-by on Woodhouse Lane are also addressed. The scheme will bring immediate benefits to the local area and has been designed to fit with the New Generation Transport proposals, although some modifications will be required to accommodate the likely NGT final design. It is anticipated that the scheme will be completed during the current financial year. | 4 | Yes |
| 4 | That the Chief Highways Officer ensure that early consultation is carried out in respect to options for making early improvements to the A660 and that this shows the overarching strategy for the corridor to ensure that scheme are not considered in isolation. | A public consultation exercise was undertaken for the scheme including the A660 during the summer of 2009. This is now complete and has informed the preparation and submission of the major scheme business case for Programm Entry to the Department for Transport. The NGT scheme is central to the delivery of transport strategy within the A660 and the officers involved with other works streams will continue to liaise through the project team to ensure the various transport elements for the corridor can be integrated. | 4 | Yes |